

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: A8973

Guyton P. SWINDELL, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/607,646

Group Art Unit: 3729

Confirmation No.: 2684

Examiner: Thiem D. PHAN

Filed: June 27, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TAUT SHEATH SPLICING OF ALL-DIELECTRIC, SELF-SUPPORTING FIBER OPTIC CABLE

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed March 11, 2008,
submitted herewith is a corrected III STATUS OF CLAIMS section

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III STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-5 have been cancelled.

Claims 6-10 and 12 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,696,864) in view of Forrester (U.S. Patent No. 5,867,624).

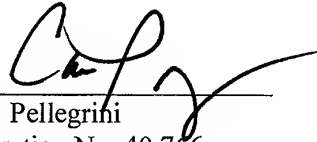
Claim 11 stands finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. in view of Forrester et al. and further in view of Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

The rejections of claims 6-12 are being appeal.

REMARKS

This Response, submitted in reply to the Notice of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief dated March 11, 2008, is believed to be fully responsive to the matter raised therein. Accordingly favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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